**Pay and Allowances of Employees of RRBs**

1202. DR. BIPLAB DASGUPTA:

Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state:

(a) whether Regional Rural Bank employees are entitled to get pay, allowances and other benefits at par with their sponsor banks as per National Industrial Tribunal Award;

(b) whether Kottaiyah Committee has recommended for exemption of RRBs from Provident Fund and Miscellaneous Provisions Act; and

(c) if so, what action has been taken so far to exempt the RRBs from Provident Fund and Miscellaneous Provisions Act?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE (DR. DEBI PROSAD PAL): (a) The pay and allowances of employees of Regional Rural Banks (RRBs) are to be determined by Government of India under Section 17 of the RRB Act, 1976. Government have issued a statutory order dated 22.02.1991, determining the pay and allowances of employees of RRBs in the light of the award of the National Industrial Tribunal (NIT).

(b) and (c) Consequent upon the award of the National Industrial Tribunal and the report of Equation Committee, Government have issued an order on 22.02.1991 determining, inter-alia, that the RRBs would continue to be governed by the provisions of Employees Provident Fund and Miscellaneous Provisions Act, 1952.

**Inflation**

1203. SHRIMATI BASANTI SARMA:
DR. SHRIKANT RAMCHANDRA JICHKAR:

Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to refer to the answer to Starred Question 7 given in the Rajya Sabha on 27.2.96 and state:

(a) whether Government are confident that the inflation will be controlled and if so, by when and to what extent; and

(b) what is the latest rate of inflation and in what way it compares with other major developed countries?

THE MINSITER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE (DR. DEBI PROSAD PAL): (a) The inflation rate was already down to the lowest level recorded in the past eight years when it touched 4.4% in February, 1996. The key to controlling inflation lies in higher growth and diversification in agricultural and industrial production besides judicious application and operation of monetary variable.

(b) The latest inflation rate based on Wholesale Prices was 4.5% by the last week of February, 1996. The inflation rate based on Consumer Prices in some of the developed and developing countries is shwon below:

| | Annual inflation as on January 1996(%) |
|---|---|
| Australia | 5.1 |
| Britain | 2.9 |
| Itlay | 5.6 |
| U.S.A. | 2.7 |
| China | 9.0 |
| India (December, 1995) | 9.7 |
| Indonesia | 10.1 |
| South Korea | 5.1 |
| Thailand | 7.4 |
| Turkey | 78.1 |
| Mexico | 51.7 |

**TV Transmitters in Arunachal Pradesh**

1204. SHRI NYODEK YONGGAM: Will the Minister of INFORMATION AND BROADCASTING be pleased to state:

(a) the total number of High Power, Low Power and Very Low Power TV transmitters in Arunachal Pradesh, district-wise location thereof; and